

ILLINOIS

Extension

4-H Club GO TO Resources



March 2020

Lesson Objectives:

Youth will understand and experience the importance of teamwork and communication to accomplish a task through cooperation and decision-making.

Time: 10-15 minutes

Equipment and supplies:

Lightweight objects of tossing size equal to the number of youth (tennis balls, bean bags, stuffed animals)

Preparations:

- Review Lesson
- Gather equipment and supplies

Team Juggling

Procedure:

1. Divide youth into groups of 6 to 8 and distribute objects (1 per youth).
2. Tell teams that their challenge is to devise a method to most effectively juggle all their objects, tossing as many as possible across the circle without letting them hit the grounds.
3. Allow some time for experiments, then have the groups demonstrate their method one at a time.
4. Have groups compare and critique each other's methods, then allow additional time for incorporating suggestions.
5. Ask:
 - What problems arose during the discussion and decision making? How were they resolved?
 - How did these problems affect the teams' ability to work together?
 - What did you learn about teamwork and problem solving?
 - What other teams are you on that need to work together? How do those teams resolve problems when they occur?
 - In what situations do adults need teamwork?

Hints

- This activity needs, a lot of space.
- For best success, youth should toss the objects in an ordered pattern (to the same person each time), starting with 1 object and working up from there, adding one more object at a time.

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Sources & Additional Lesson info:

4-H Club GO TO Resources is being offered to 4-H clubs in Boone, DeKalb and Ogle Counties as a way to enrich and enhance 4-H experiences and programming at the club level. It is the goal of the Extension staff to assist 4-H leaders and officers in providing simple hands-on activities on a monthly basis that can broaden the 4-H club experience and as a result heighten positive youth development.

Resources: based on “Team Juggling” in the Terrific Teachable Moments: Grades 7 Through 12 written and compiled by University of Illinois Extension

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